

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 20613 151743Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00

CEQ-01 EPA-01 OES-07 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 STR-04

/095 W

-----072260 160401Z /21

R 151709Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5746

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAIR, EIND, FR, US

SUBJ: FRENCH PROTEST OVER PENDING US LEGISLATION  
ON ALRCRAFT NOISE REDUCTION

1. FROMENT-MEURICE, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AND FIN-  
ANCIAL AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, CALLED IN  
DCM ON JULY 15 TO EXPRESS TO HIM GOF'S CONCERN  
OVER AIRPORT AND AIRCRAFT NOISE REDUCTION BILL  
(H.R. 8124) INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE BY  
REP. ANDERSON (D-CALIF) AND APPROVED BY AVIATION  
SUB-COMMITTEE HE CHAIRS. FROMENT-MEURICE NOTED  
THAT PURPOSE OF THIS LEGISLATION WAS TO FINANCE,  
BY MEANS OF US TICKET SURCHARGE ON DOMESTIC AND  
INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS, THE  
RETROFIT OR REPLACEMENT OF OLDER,

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PAGE 02 PARIS 20613 151743Z

NOISIER AIRCRAFT IN US CARRIER JET FLEETS. HOWEVER,  
REMARKED FROMENT-MEURICE, GOF UNDERSTOOD THAT US  
CARRIERS WOULD BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FINANCING  
ASSISTANCE FROM THE FUND THUS GENERATED ONLY FOR  
REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT HAVING NO LESS THAN 50 PERCENT  
US-MADE COMPONENTS AND WITH CARGO CAPACITY NO MORE  
THAN SEVEN PERCENT GREATER THAN THAT OF AIRCRAFT

BEING REPLACED. BOTH OF THESE CONDITIONS, HE SAID, SEEMED SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO EXCLUDE A-300 AIRBUS FROM BEING CONSIDERED AS REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH FINANCING. GOF SAW THIS AS UNACCEPTABLE PROTECTIONISM EFFORT AGAINST WHICH IT MUST PROTEST MOST VIGOROUSLY.

2. DCM SAID HE WOULD REPORT GOF VIEWS TO WASHINGTON AND MAKE INQUIRIES AS TO STATUS OF THE BILL. HE NOTED THAT ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION IS A TIME CONSUMING PROCESS AND UNLIKELY TO BE EFFECTED WITHOUT AMPLE TIME TO CONSIDER ALL VIEWS.

3. COMMENT: WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT THE ANDERSON BILL DOES INCLUDE PROVISIONS AS DESCRIBED TO US BY FROMENT-MEURICE, WHICH WE PRESUME TO BE THE CASE, AND ALSO ESTIMATE OF HOW THE BILL AND IN PARTICULAR THE ABOVE PROVISIONS MIGHT FARE BEFORE THE CONGRESS. DOES THE ADMINISTRATION, FOR EXAMPLE, SUPPORT THE ABOVE PROVISIONS OR WOULD IT INTEND TO SEEK THEIR DELETION? AFTER THE LOSS OF THE AIRBUS SALE TO WESTERN AIRLINES AND WITH REPORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION'S CURRENT INVESTIGATION OF THE LEASING OF AIRBUSES TO EASTERN AIRLINES, SUCH PROVISIONS FURTHER SERVE TO REINFORCE FRENCH BELIEF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 PARIS 20613 151743Z

THAT DEFINITE BARRIERS ARE BEING ERECTED TO BLOCK AIRBUS SALES TO US CARRIERS. THE FRENCH ARE OBVIOUSLY ALL THE MORE SENSITIVE ON THIS POINT BECAUSE OF CONCORDE'S CONTINUING PROBLEMS AT NEW YORK.

4. WE COULD OF COURSE HAVE DRAWN FROMENT-MEURICE'S ATTENTION, WHILE ON THE SUBJECT OF PROTECTIONISM, TO GOF'S PRESSURES ON AIR FRANCE TO PREVENT THAT CARRIER FROM BUYING OR EVEN, THUS FAR, LEASING BOEING 737'S, BUT WE THOUGHT IT PREFERABLE NOT TO RAISE THIS SUBJECT AT THIS TIME. IF THE FEATURES OBJECTIONABLE TO THE GOF IN THE ANDERSON BILL WERE TO BE REMOVED, HOWEVER, WE WOULD THEN BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO PROD HIM WITH REGARD TO GOF'S POLICY DETERMINING AIR FRANCE'S AIRCRAFT AND RE-EQUIPMENT PROGRAM.  
HARTMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH PROTEST OVER PENDING US LEGISLATION ON ALRCRAFT NOISE REDUCTION  
**TAGS:** EAIR, EIND, FR, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009